

Suspension—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure which was debated on Monday, March 23rd:

Department of Veterans Affairs Budget Planning Reform Act of 2015: H.R. 216, amended, to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a Future-Years Veterans Program and a quadrennial veterans review, and to establish in the Department of Veterans Affairs a Chief Strategy Officer, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 420 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 134. **Pages H1869–70**

Establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2016 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2017 through 2025: The House began consideration of H. Con. Res. 27, establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2016 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2017 through 2025. Further proceedings were postponed. **Pages H1858–95**

H. Res. 163, the rule providing for consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 27), was agreed to by a yeas-and-nays vote of 237 yeas to 180 nays with one answering “present”, Roll No. 133, after the previous question was ordered by a yeas-and-nays vote of 238 yeas to 180 nays, Roll No. 132. **Pages H1858–70**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure:

Designating the Federal building located at 2030 Southwest 145th Avenue in Miramar, Florida, as the “Benjamin P. Grogan and Jerry L. Dove Federal Bureau of Investigation Miami Field Office”: H.R. 1092, amended, to designate the Federal building located at 2030 Southwest 145th Avenue in Miramar, Florida, as the “Benjamin P. Grogan and Jerry L. Dove Federal Bureau of Investigation Miami Field Office”; **Pages H1895–97**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “To designate the Federal building located at 2030 Southwest 145th Avenue in Miramar, Florida, as the ‘Benjamin P. Grogan and Jerry L. Dove Federal Building’.”. **Page H1897**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H1858.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Four yeas-and-nays votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1868, H1868–69, H1869–70, and H1870. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Committee Meetings

EXAMINATION OF THE COSTS AND IMPACTS OF MANDATORY BIOTECHNOLOGY LAWS

Committee on Agriculture: Full Committee held a hearing on examination of the costs and impacts of mandatory biotechnology laws. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

REAUTHORIZING THE CFTC: END-USER VIEWS

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Commodity Exchanges, Energy, and Credit held a hearing on reauthorizing the CFTC: end-user views. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

APPROPRIATIONS—AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE PUBLIC AND OUTSIDE WITNESS DAY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a hearing for American Indian and Alaska Native public and outside witnesses. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE RESEARCH AGENCIES

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Department of Agriculture Research Agencies budget. Testimony was heard from the following Department of Agriculture officials: Catherine E. Woteki, Under Secretary, Research, Education and Economics; Chavonda Jacobs-Young, Administrator, Agriculture Research Service; Sonny Ramaswamy, Director, National Institute of Food and Agriculture; Mary Bohman, Administrator, Economic Research Service; Joseph Reilly, Administrator, National Agriculture Statistics Service; and Michael Young, Budget Officer.

APPROPRIATIONS—MISSILE DEFENSE AGENCY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held a hearing on Missile Defense Agency budget. Testimony was heard from Vice Admiral James D. Syring, Director, Missile Defense Agency. This hearing was closed.

APPROPRIATIONS—NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development held a hearing on Nuclear Regulatory Commission budget. Testimony was

heard from Stephen Burns, Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission; Kristine Svinicki, Commissioner, Nuclear Regulatory Commission; William Ostendorff, Commissioner, Nuclear Regulatory Commission; and Jeff Baran, Commissioner, Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

APPROPRIATIONS—COAST GUARD

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a hearing on Coast Guard budget. Testimony was heard from Paul F. Zukunft, Commandant, United States Coast Guard.

APPROPRIATIONS—NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education held a hearing on National Labor Relations Board budget. Testimony was heard from Mark Pearce, Chairman, National Labor Relations Board; and Richard F. Griffin Jr., General Counsel, National Labor Relations Board.

APPROPRIATIONS—HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Housing and Urban Development Programs budget. Testimony was heard from Julian Castro, Secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development.

APPROPRIATIONS—FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held a hearing on Federal Communications Commission budget. Testimony was heard from Tom Wheeler, Chairman, Federal Communications Commission; and Ajit Pai, Commissioner, Federal Communications Commission.

APPROPRIATIONS—ASSISTANCE TO CENTRAL AMERICA

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs held a hearing on Assistance to Central America budget. Testimony was heard from Roberta S. Jacobson, Assistant Secretary of State, Western Hemisphere Affairs; William R. Brownfield, Assistant Secretary of State, International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs; and Elizabeth Hogan, Acting Assistant Administrator, Latin America and the Caribbean, U.S. Agency for International Development.

FISCAL YEAR 2016 ATOMIC ENERGY DEFENSE HEARING

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces held a hearing entitled “Fiscal Year 2016 Atomic Energy Defense Hearing”. Testimony was heard from Lieutenant General Frank Klotz (USAF, Retired), Administrator, National Nuclear Security Administration; Mark Whitney, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management, Department of Energy; and Jessie Hill Roberson, Vice Chairman, Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Workforce Protections held a hearing on H.R. 548, the “Certainty in Enforcement Act of 2015”; H.R. 549, the “Litigation Oversight Act of 2015”; H.R. 550, the “EEOC Transparency and Accountability Act”; and H.R. 1189, the “Preserving Employee Wellness Programs Act”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

EXAMINING THE 340B DRUG PRICING PROGRAM

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “Examining the 340B Drug Pricing Program”. Testimony was heard from Diana Espinosa, Deputy Administrator, Health Resources and Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services; Debbie Draper, Director, Health Care, Government Accountability Office; and Ann Maxwell, Assistant Inspector General for Evaluation and Inspections, Office of Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services.

THE INTERNET OF THINGS: EXPLORING THE NEXT TECHNOLOGY FRONTIER

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing and Trade held a hearing entitled “The Internet of Things: Exploring the Next Technology Frontier”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

IMPROVING COAL COMBUSTION RESIDUALS REGULATION ACT OF 2015

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy concluded a hearing on the “Improving Coal Combustion Residuals Regulation Act of 2015”. Testimony was heard from Mathy Stanislaus, Assistant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, Environmental Protection Agency.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy began a markup on

the “Improving Coal Combustion Residuals Regulation Act of 2015”.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade began a markup on the “Data Security and Breach Notification Act of 2015”.

EXAMINING THE SEC’S AGENDA, OPERATIONS, AND FY 2016 BUDGET REQUEST

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Examining the SEC’s Agenda, Operations, and FY 2016 Budget Request”. Testimony was heard from Mary Jo White, Chair, Securities and Exchange Commission.

THE FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION’S ROLE IN OPERATION CHOKE POINT

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation’s Role in Operation Choke Point”. Testimony was heard from Martin J. Gruenberg, Chairman, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

THE U.S. REBALANCE IN SOUTH ASIA: FOREIGN AID AND DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific held a hearing entitled “The U.S. Rebalance in South Asia: Foreign Aid and Development Priorities”. Testimony was heard from Nisha Desai Biswal, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of South and Central Asian Affairs, Department of State; and Jonathan Stivers, Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Asia, U.S. Agency for International Development.

OVERSIGHT OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT AND AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUNDING PRIORITIES FOR THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere held a hearing entitled “Oversight of the State Department and Agency for International Development Funding Priorities for the Western Hemisphere”. Testimony was heard from Roberta S. Jacobson, Assistant Secretary, Bureau for Western Hemisphere Affairs, Department of State; and Elizabeth Hogan, Acting Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, U.S. Agency for International Development.

IRAN’S NONCOMPLIANCE WITH ITS INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY OBLIGATIONS

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa held a hearing entitled “Iran’s Noncompliance with Its International Atomic Energy Agency Obligations”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

AFTER PARIS AND COPENHAGEN: RESPONDING TO THE RISING TIDE OF ANTI-SEMITISM

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations held a hearing entitled “After Paris and Copenhagen: Responding to the Rising Tide of Anti-Semitism”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

A GLOBAL BATTLEGROUND: THE FIGHT AGAINST ISLAMIST EXTREMISM AT HOME AND ABROAD

Committee on Homeland Security: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “A Global Battleground: The Fight against Islamist Extremism at Home and Abroad”. Testimony was heard from Former Speaker Newt Gingrich; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 348, the “Responsibly And Professionally Invigorating Development Act of 2015”; H.R. 712, the “Sunshine for Regulatory Decrees and Settlements Act of 2015”; H.R. 1155, the “Searching for and Cutting Regulations that are Unnecessarily Burdensome Act of 2015”; H.R. 690, the “Providing Accountability Through Transparency Act of 2015”; and H.R. 889, the “Foreign Cultural Exchange Jurisdictional Immunity Clarification Act”. The following bills were ordered reported, without amendment: H.R. 1155, H.R. 348, H.R. 690, H.R. 712, and H.R. 889.

EXAMINING THE SPENDING PRIORITIES AND MISSIONS OF THE FOREST SERVICE AND THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT IN THE PRESIDENT’S FY 2016 BUDGET PROPOSALS

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Federal Lands held a hearing entitled “Examining the Spending Priorities and Missions of the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management in the President’s FY 2016 Budget Proposals”. Testimony was heard from Neil Kornze, Director, Bureau of Land Management; and Thomas Tidwell, Chief, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

EXAMINING THE SPENDING PRIORITIES AND MISSIONS OF THE BUREAU OF RECLAMATION, THE POWER MARKETING ADMINISTRATIONS AND USGS WATER DIVISION IN THE PRESIDENT'S FY 2016 BUDGET PROPOSAL

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Water, Power, and Oceans held a hearing entitled "Examining the Spending Priorities and Missions of the Bureau of Reclamation, the Power Marketing Administrations and USGS Water Division in the President's FY 2016 Budget Proposal". Testimony was heard from Estevan Lopez, Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation; Mark Gabriel, Administrator, Western Area Power Administration; Elliot Mainzer, Administrator, Bonneville Power Administration; Christopher Turner, Administrator, Southwestern Power Administration; Kenneth Legg, Administrator, Southeastern Power Administration; and William Werkheiser, Associate Director, Water, U.S. Geological Survey.

EXAMINING THE SPENDING PRIORITIES AND MISSION OF THE U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY IN THE PRESIDENT'S FY 2016 BUDGET PROPOSAL

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a hearing entitled "Examining the Spending Priorities and Mission of the U.S. Geological Survey in the President's FY 2016 Budget Proposal". Testimony was heard from Suzette Kimball, Acting Director, U.S. Geological Survey, Department of the Interior.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Full Committee began a markup on H.R. 152, the "Corolla Wild Horses Protection Act"; H.R. 308, the "Keep the Promise Act of 2015"; H.R. 373, the "Good Samaritan Search and Recovery Act"; H.R. 404, to authorize early repayment of obligations to the Bureau of Reclamation within the Northport Irrigation District in the State of Nebraska; H.R. 533, to revoke the charter of incorporation of the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma at the request of that tribe, and for other purposes; H.R. 979, to designate a mountain in the John Muir Wilderness of the Sierra National Forest as "Sky Point"; H.R. 984, to amend the National Trails System Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating the Chief Standing Bear National Historic Trail, and for other purposes; H.R. 1168, the "Native American Children Safety Act"; and H.R. 1324, the "Arapaho National Forest Boundary Adjustment Act of 2015".

USSS: HOLDING THE PROTECTORS ACCOUNTABLE

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "USSS: Holding the Protectors Accountable". Testimony was heard from Joseph P. Clancy, Director, Secret Service.

SEARCHING FOR THE ORIGINS OF THE UNIVERSE: AN UPDATE ON THE PROGRESS OF THE JAMES WEBB SPACE TELESCOPE

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Space held a hearing entitled "Searching for the Origins of the Universe: An Update on the Progress of the James Webb Space Telescope". Testimony was heard from John Grunsfeld, Associate Administrator, Science Mission Directorate, National Aeronautics and Space Administration; Cristina Chaplain, Director of Acquisition and Sourcing Management, Government Accountability Office; John Mather, Senior Project Scientist, James Webb Space Telescope, Goddard Space Flight Center, National Aeronautics and Space Administration; and a public witness.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY OVERSIGHT: OFFICE OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Energy held a hearing entitled "Department of Energy Oversight: Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy". Testimony was heard from David Danielson, Assistant Secretary, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy; and public witnesses.

OPTIONS FOR FAA AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL REFORM

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Aviation held a hearing entitled "Options for FAA Air Traffic Control Reform". Testimony was heard from Matt Hampton, Assistant Inspector General for Aviation Audits, Office of the Inspector General, Department of Transportation; Craig Fuller, Vice Chairman, Federal Aviation Administration Management Advisory Council; and public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE HEARING

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity held a hearing on H.R. 456, the "Reducing Barriers for Veterans Education Act of 2015"; H.R. 473, the "Increasing the Department of Veterans Affairs Accountability to Veterans Act of 2015"; H.R. 474, the "Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Programs Reauthorization Act of 2015"; H.R. 475, the "GI Bill Processing Improvement Act of 2015"; H.R. 476, the "GI Bill Education Quality

Enhancement Act of 2015”; H.R. 643, the “Veterans Education Survey Act of 2015”; H.R. 1038, the “Ensuring VA Employee Accountability Act”; H.R. 1141, to amend title 38, United States Code, to consider certain time spent by members of reserve components of the Armed Forces while receiving medical care from the Secretary of Defense as active duty for purposes of eligibility for Post-9/11 Educational Assistance, and for other purposes; H.R. 1187, to amend title 38, United States Code, to adjust certain limits on the guaranteed amount of a home loan under the home loan program of the Department of Veterans Affairs; H.R. 1313, the “Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business Relief Act”; and H.R. 1382, the “Boosting Rates of American Veteran Employment Act”. Testimony was heard from Representative Murphy of Florida; Major General Robert M. Worley II USAF (Retired), Director, Education Service, Veterans Benefit Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; Teresa W. Gerton, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Veterans’ Employment and Training Service, Department of Labor; and public witnesses.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT’S USE OF DATA ANALYSIS TO IDENTIFY EMERGING TRENDS AND STOP MEDICARE FRAUD

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Oversight held a hearing on the federal government’s use of data analysis—particularly the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services’ Fraud Prevention System (FPS)—to identify emerging trends, and stop Medicare fraud. Testimony was heard from Shantanu Agrawal, Deputy Administrator and Director, Center for Program Integrity, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; Gary Cantrell, Deputy Inspector General for Investigations, Office of Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services; and public witnesses.

BUDGET HEARING

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Subcommittee on Defense and Overhead Architecture held a budget hearing. This hearing was closed.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2015

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of Defense, to hold hearings to examine proposed

budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the Defense Health Program, 9 a.m., SD-192.

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the Department of Energy, 2:30 p.m., SD-124.

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on SeaPower, to hold hearings to examine Navy and Marine Corps aviation programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program, 9 a.m., SR-222.

Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support, to hold hearings to examine the current state of readiness of U.S. forces in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program, 2:30 p.m., SR-232A.

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, to hold hearings to examine ballistic missile defense programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program, 3 p.m., SR-222.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine Financial Stability Oversight Council (FSOC) accountability, focusing on nonbank designations, 2 p.m., SD-538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 2:30 p.m., SR-253.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Paul A. Folmsbee, of Oklahoma, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Mali, Mary Catherine Phee, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Republic of South Sudan, Cassandra Q. Butts, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, and Katherine Simonds Dhanani, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Somalia, all of the Department of State, 2:15 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine securing the border, focusing on understanding and addressing the root causes of Central American migration to the United States, 2 p.m., SD-342.

Special Committee on Aging: to hold hearings to examine the fight against Alzheimer’s disease, focusing on a treatment by 2025, 2:15 p.m., SD-106.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Subcommittee on Livestock and Foreign Agriculture, hearing to examine the implications of potential retaliatory measures taken against the United States in response to meat labeling requirements, 9 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Commodity Exchanges, Energy and Credit, hearing on reauthorizing the CFTC: market participant views, 1:30 p.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, hearing on Centers for Disease Control and Prevention budget, 8:30 a.m., 2358-C Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Defense, hearing on Intelligence Community and Global Threat budget, 9 a.m., H-405 Capitol. This hearing will be closed (Members only).